GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:560
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2001
INDO-NEPAL TIES
BHIM PRASAD DAHAL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any change in Indo-Nepal relations after the massacre of royal family and accession of new King; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) & (b) India and Nepal share enduring bonds of friendship and India remains committed to mutually beneficial cooperation with Nepal. India`s relations with Nepal have withstood the test of time.

Shri Jaswant Singh, External Affairs Minister, made a goodwill visit to Nepal from August 17 to 19, 2001. The purpose of the visit was to personally convey to King Gyanendra the deepest condolences of the President, the Prime Minister, the Government, and the people of India at the grievous tragedy that struck Nepal in June this year. The visit was also an opportunity to convey to the newly elected Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri Sher Bahadur Deuba, reaffirmation of India`s commitment to building further on the existing friendship and co-operation between India and Nepal. While the visit was essentially a goodwill visit, issues of interest to the two countries were also discussed.

Regular bilateral mechanisms have continued to be in operation. Some of the important Meetings include the Joint Technical Committee Meeting on the Boundary, the Inter-Governmental Committee Meeting on Trade, Transit and Unauthorised Trade, the Joint Working Group Meeting on Border Management, etc,.